

Information requested by the Home-Based Child Care Interim Committee

October 10, 2007 Meeting

Background checks - estimate on cost to require FBI checks for all.

Of the 50 states that license child care centers, all but seven states (DC, DE*, ID, MN, ND, NV, VT) require center staff to undergo at least one type of criminal background check, either a check of criminal history records, child abuse and neglect registries, fingerprints, and/or sex offender registries. Five states (DE, NC, NE, NY, OH) require center staff to sign a statement about criminal status.

Six state require Federal criminal history record checks (AK, AL, AR, CT, IL, TX) for staff in Centers.

There are also a number of states requiring fingerprint checks.

Federal Record checks cost \$24.00 – 62.00 per check. Each year we conduct, at the State's cost, approximately 48,000 child care related record and child abuse checks are performed each year. If we were to include federal criminal record checks at \$24.00 per check, this could mean up to \$1,152,000 – 2,976,000 per year.

Some states pay all the costs, some states share the costs with providers.

Currently, the our State pays all the costs.

Here is the full report and tables from NCCIC:



Criminal Background Check Requirements for Child Care Centers

Licensing is a process administered by State governments that sets a baseline of requirements below which it is illegal for facilities that provide child care services to operate, unless the facility is legally exempt from licensing. States have regulations that include the requirements child care facilities must comply with and policies to support the enforcement of those regulations. The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education's Web site has State child care regulations at <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/STATES/states.htm>. More information about licensing is also available on the National Child Care Information Center's (NCCIC) Web site at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/poptopics/index.html#licensing>.

The following includes information about the State licensing requirements for child care centers regarding the requirements for criminal background checks.

THE 2005 CHILD CARE LICENSING STUDY

The following is an excerpt from *The 2005 Child Care Licensing Study* (2006), by the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) and NCCIC, about the State licensing requirements for criminal background checks for child care centers. The full report, executive summary, and State data tables and profiles from this study are available on NARA's Web site at www.nara.affiniscape.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=104.

3.5 Staff Hiring Requirements

B. Background Checks

Of the 50 states that license child care centers, all but seven states (DC, DE*, ID, MN, ND, NV, VT) require center staff to undergo at least one type of criminal background check, either a check of criminal history records, child abuse and neglect registries, fingerprints, and/or sex offender registries. Five states (DE, NC, NE, NY, OH) require center staff to sign a statement about criminal status.

Table 13 provides additional details about criminal background check requirements for center staff. As the table shows, most states with background check requirements mandate that all staff be checked. In addition, several states require volunteers to undergo a background check. The requirements for each state are available in *Table M: Criminal Background Check Requirements for Center Staff in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables, and in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations. (pp. 56–58)

* NARA and NCCIC received information after data analyses were complete regarding Delaware's separate set of regulations for background checks. This error will be corrected when data are updated in the future.

Table 13: Number of States with Requirements for Criminal Background Checks for Center Staff		
Background Check Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires check of criminal history records for center staff	41	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State criminal history record check required 	28	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NM, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, VA, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal criminal history record check required 	6	AK, AL, AR, CT, IL, TX
Required for all center staff	36	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV, WY
Required for center staff having contact with children	4	AK, IA, RI, WA
Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)	0	
Required for volunteers	19	AR, CA, IA, IN, KS, KY, MA, ME, MS, MT, NM, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, WA, WV, WY
State requires check of child abuse and neglect registries for center staff	24	AL, AR, CA, CO, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, PA, RI, SD, TX, WV, WY
Required for all center staff	22	AL, AR, CA, CO, HI, IL, KS, KY, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, PA, SD, TX, WV, WY
Required for center staff having contact with children	2	IA, RI
Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)	0	

(pp. 58–59)

Table 13: Number of States with Requirements for Criminal Background Checks for Center Staff (cont.)		
Background Check Requirement	Number of States	State
Required for volunteers	14	AR, CA, IA, KS, KY, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, RI, TX, WV, WY
State requires checks of fingerprint records for center staff	18	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, HI, IL, LA, MS, NC, NJ, NM, OH, RI, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State fingerprint record check required 	11	AK, AL, CO, CT, IL, NC, NM, OH, RI, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal fingerprint record check required 	4	AR, CT, IL, RI
Required for all center staff	13	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, HI, IL, LA, MS, NJ, NM, TN, WV
Required for center staff having contact with children	2	AK, RI
Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)	1	AR
Required for volunteers	4	MS, NM, RI, WV
State requires checks of sex offender registries	7	IA, IL, IN, MI, NY, OK, SC

N=44 states, excluding DC, DE, ID, MN, ND, NV, and VT
(p. 59)

The National Child Care Information Center, a service of the Child Care Bureau, does not endorse any organization, publication, or resource. For more information, please contact NCCIC: 10530 Rosehaven Street, Suite 400, Fairfax, Virginia 22030; Ph: 800-616-2242; Fax: 800-716-2242; TTY: 800-516-2242; E-mail: info@nccic.org; Web site: <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov>.

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